Press Release
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2015 Women’s Leadership Award Winners Announced at IUPUI

At the end of March, women faculty, staff and student leaders were recognized and celebrated at the Annual Women’s Leadership Awards Reception sponsored by the Office for Women and the Office of Student Involvement. The awards highlight the campus celebration of Women’s History Month which this year featured the theme, “Weaving the Stories of Women’s Lives.”

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Zebulun Davenport welcomed the group to the event. This was followed by a keynote address by Professor Kristina Horn Sheeler, Chair of the Communication Studies Department, IU School of Liberal Arts. Using research from her book, “Woman President: Confronting Postfeminist Political Culture,” Professor Sheeler discussed what elements of American political and rhetorical culture have blocked the imagining—and thus, the electing—of a woman as president and how this may impact the 2016 election.

At the event the Office of Student Involvement recognized these women students with Outstanding Leader awards: Amy Shackelford, School of Social Work; Lucy Frick, IU McKinney School of Law; Michelle Kwolek, Herron School of Art and Design, Carolina Castoreno, IU School of Liberal Arts; Nicole Blair, IU School of Nursing, and Corinne Blackburn, Purdue School of Science, IUPUI. Bailey K. Moss, an English major at IUPU – Columbus was recognized as the “Inspirational Woman Student.”

The Office for Women made the following Outstanding Woman Leader awards: For “Newcomer” Staff - Cynthia Felsten, Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Indiana University – Purdue University Columbus and Tara Hobson-Prater, Director, Indiana BioMedical Gateway, IU School of Medicine. For “Veteran” Staff - Tralicia Lewis, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, IUPUI. The Staff Inspirational Woman award was presented to Pamela Blevins Hinkle, Director, The Spirit and Place Festival, The Polis Center, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI.

The Outstanding Woman Leader awards for “Newcomer” Faculty went to Cherri Hobgood, MD, Chair, and Rolly McGrath Professor, Emergency Medicine, IU School of Medicine and Genevieve G. Shaker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philanthropic Studies, IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, IUPUI; Associate Dean for Development and External Affairs, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI.

The Outstanding Woman Leader awards for “Veteran” Faculty were presented to Mary Guerriero Austrom, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Diversity Affairs, Wesley P. Martin...
Professor of Alzheimer Disease Education, IU School of Medicine; Teresita M. Bellido, Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology and Professor of Medicine, IU School of Medicine; Bonnie Blazer-Yost, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Purdue School of Science, IUPUI; Gina Sanchez Gibau, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Student Affairs, IU School of Liberal Arts, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI; and Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD, Executive Director, National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health, IU School of Medicine; Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, IU School of Medicine.

Two Faculty “Inspirational Woman” awards were given to: Angela Tomlin, Ph.D., Director, Riley Child Development Center, Riley Hospital for Children; Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, IU School of Medicine; and Sheila Kennedy, J.D., Professor of Law and Public Policy, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, IUPUI; Director, Center for Civic Literacy, IUPUI.